Bullock carts

*261 *Q.*—Dr. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware that a number of bullocks yoked to overloaded bullock carts have died over the various over bridges in the City of Madras during that last six months ; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken are proposed to be taken in this regard ?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) : (*a*) No case of bullocks dying due to pulling overloads on the overbridges in Madras City has come to the notice of Government.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Sri G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Sir, what exactly are the steps taken by the Government to see that the dumb animals are not put to such hardship?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATAARMAN : Sir, the hon. Member is aware of the institution known as SPCA. The Society prosecutes the persons who are ill-treating the animals and they are also convicted in courts.

Spindleage

*262 *Q.*—Sri S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state the mode of allotment of spindleage for the spinning mills in the State during the Third Plan ?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : The matter is under consideration of Government.

Oil refinery

3–10 p.m. *263 *Q.*—Vidwan T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the expert committee constituted by the Government of India held any discussions with the Government as regards the feasibility of establishing an oil refinery ; and

(*b*) if so, the result thereof ?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) & (*b*) At the instance of the Government of India, the Indian Institute of Petroleum has appointed a Study Group to undertake a study of all relevant factors to be considered for preparing a scheme for the establishment of an oil refinery in South India. Two members of the Study Goup toured this State in June 1962 and held discussions with representatives of various interests. The recommendations made by the team have not been communicated to this Government.